

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

ROBERT JOSEPH McCARTY,) Case No. 2:11-CV-01538-JCM-RJJ
Plaintiff,)
vs.)
JOHN V. ROOS, et al.,)
Defendants.)

Presently before the court are state defendants' motion to stay case pending appeal (doc. # 75) and defendants John Roos and Joseph Koen's motion to stay response to amended complaint (doc. # 76).

On July 12, 2012, this court entered an order denying plaintiff Robert McCarty's motion for partial summary judgment (doc. # 70) and granting in part and denying in part state defendants' motions to dismiss (doc. # 70). Plaintiff filed a notice of appeal on July 18, 2012. (Doc. # 72). State defendants now move for an order staying the case pending appeal arguing that this court was divested of jurisdiction once plaintiff filed his notice of appeal. (Doc. # 75).

21 As a general rule, “the filing of a notice of appeal is an event of jurisdictional
22 significance—it confers jurisdiction on the court of appeals and divests the district court of its
23 control over those aspects of the case involved in the appeal.” *Griggs v. Provident Consumer*
24 *Discount Co.*, 459 U.S. 56, 58 (1982). This transfer of jurisdiction from the district court to the
25 court of appeals is not effected, however, if a litigant files a notice of appeal from an
26 unappealable order. *Colen v. U.S.*, 368 Fed. Appx. 837, 838 (9th Cir. 2010), *see also Estate of*
27 *Connors by Meredith v. O’Connor*, 6 F.3d 656, 658 (9th Cir. 1993).

28 "Any order or other decision . . . that adjudicates fewer than all the claims or the rights

1 and liabilities of fewer than all the parties does not end the action as to any of the claims or
 2 parties and may be revised any time before the entry of a judgment adjudicating all the claims
 3 and all the parties' rights and liabilities." FED. R. CIV. P. 54(b).

4 Plaintiff filed a notice of appeal on July 18, 2012. However, the order plaintiff attempts to
 5 appeal is not appealable. Neither an order for a motion to dismiss nor a motion for partial
 6 summary judgment are final orders under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 54(b).

7 Because the court's July 12, 2012, order was not final, this court must consider whether it
 8 may still be appealed prior to a final decision under 28 U.S.C. § 1291. The Supreme Court has
 9 explained that appeals may be taken "from a narrow class of decisions that do not terminate the
 10 litigation . . . [but] are conclusive, [] resolve important questions completely separate from the
 11 merits, and [] would render such important questions effectively unreviewable on appeal from
 12 final judgment in the underlying action." *Digital Equip. Corp. v. Desktop Direct, Inc.*, 511 U.S.
 13 863, 867 (1994).

14 The court's July 12, order does not meet the standards identified by the Supreme Court in
 15 *Digital Equipment*. The order is conclusive as to the causes of action it addresses, but the
 16 questions it resolves go directly to the merits of this case and are intertwined with remaining
 17 causes of action. Moreover, proceeding with this litigation until a final judgment is entered
 18 would not render any "important questions effectively unreviewable." *Id.*

19 Accordingly,

20 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that state defendants'
 21 motion to stay case pending appeal (doc. # 75) be, and the same hereby is, DENIED.

22 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that defendants Roos and Koen's motion to stay response to
 23 amended complaint (doc. # 76) be, and the same hereby is, GRANTED. Defendants Roos and
 24 Koen are ordered to respond to plaintiff's amended complaint within 15 days of entry of this
 25 order.

26 DATED this 10TH day of August, 2012.

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 28 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE